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**Request  
For  
Continued Examination (RCE)  
Transmittal**

Submission (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant  
application filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection-Action of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	10/017,734
Filing Date	December 18, 2001
First Named Inventor	Baowei KANG
Group Art Unit	2823
Examiner Name	Khiem D. Nguyen
Attorney Docket No.	B786.312-1
Express Mail No.	EV 331789706 US

Mail to: Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes of Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
  - a. ☒ Previously submitted
    - i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on December 29, 2003 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
    - ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
    - iii. ☐ Other
  - b. ☒ Enclosed
    - i. ☒ Amendment/Reply (entitled "Response")
    - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
    - iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
    - iv. ☒ Other Petition for Three-Month Extension of Time
2. Miscellaneous
  - a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of  months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
  - b. ☐ Other
3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed)
  - a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 11-0982.
    - i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
    - ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
    - iii. ☐ Other
  - b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 860.00 enclosed

Atty Name and Reg. No.	Alan M. Koenck 43,724	Signature: 	Date: <u>3/30/04</u>
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